

Application No. 09/711,691
Amendment Dated September 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 26, 2004

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 26, 2004, had been carefully considered by applicant. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing statement under 35 U.S.C. §103(c) concerning common ownership and the remarks that follow.

Claims 21, 50, 51 and 56 are amended to correct typographical errors therein. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Samuelson et al U.S. Patent No. 5,361,776 in view of Warner et al U.S. Patent No. 6,409,659.

By the present Amendment, the undersigned attorney of record for the applicant provides a statement under 35 U.S.C. §103(c) concerning common ownership. This statement alone is sufficient evidence to disqualify Warner et al U.S. Patent No. 6,409,659 from being used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) against the claims of the present application. M.P.E.P. §706.02(l)(2).

In view of the foregoing statement concerning common ownership under 35 U.S.C. §103(c), the outstanding rejection of claims 1-63 is overcome, and the present application is believed in condition for allowance with claims 1-63. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

By Peter T. Holsen
Peter T. Holsen
Reg. No. 54,180

Andrus, Sceales, Starke & Sawall, LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Telephone: (414) 271-7590
Facsimile: (414) 271-5770